Agreement between India and Oman for supply of gas

*414. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the agreement entered into between India and Oman for the supply of gas and what are the main reasons which necessitated for entering into a contract with Oman;

(b) whether Government have made any enquiry to the effect that Oman had adequate resources and ability to fulfil its commitment to supply gas to India and if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) whether Government have made any feasibility study for the project and also about the quantity of gas to be lifted from the project annually and if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (c) An Agreement has been signed with the Sultanate of Oman on the Principal Terms to be included in the Long Terms Gas Supply Contract. The Principal Terms include the Contract Period, Contract Quantity, Minimum Quantity, Price, etc. The Contract with Oman will be signed after the successful completion of the feasibility study. An Expert Committee has been formed to examine the gas reserves of Oman. An Expert Group formed in March, 1993 has reported the feasibility of utilising 56.6 MMSCMD of gas to be imported from Oman in meeting the identified demands along the HBJ pipeline and in the Southern States.

Regrouping of LTTE in Tamil Nadu

*415. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated the 5th March 1995 that the LTTE regrouped itself to reestablish its network in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so the reaction of Government and the steps taken to prevent that regrouping?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Government of Tamil Nadu has intimtaed that there is no evidence suggestive of the Liberation Tiger of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) re-grouping in the State. A careful watch is however being maintaind to prevent any possible re-grouping.

Diplomatic and Commercial relations with Mongolia

*416. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:
SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what follow up action was taken to reinforce our friendly relations with Mongolia, after the visit of President of P. Ochirbat to India in the year 1994;

(b) what are the provisions of the Treaty of Friendly Relations and Cooperations signed between India and Mongolia;

(c) whether our trade with Mongolia has increase since this treaty; and

(c) what is being done to increase commercial and diplomatic interaction with Mongolia?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) President P. Ochirbat paid an official visit to India in February 1994. A series of measures have since been undertaken to further strengthen bilatral relations. Union Agriculture Minister Dr. Balaram Jakhar visited Ulanbaatar in April 1994. This was fol-

lowed by the visit of the then Commerce Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee in September 1994. India participated in the fourth "Mongolia Assistance Group Meeting" in Tokyo in November 1994. The first ever "International Conference of Mongolists" was held in New Delhi in February 1995 with the support of the Ministry of External Affairs.

The Treaty of Friendly Relations and Cooperation singned during President Ochirbat's visit, inter alia provides for;

—developing equal and mutually benefisial co-operation in political, economic, trade and other fields.

—closely co-operating within the framework of the UN, NAM and other international organisations, with a view to furthering the cause of peace and international security globally and in Asia.

The text of the Treaty is attached. as Statement. (*See* below). Relations between India and Mongolia are steadily growing in all spheres.

Two-way trade between India and Mongolia increased from Rs. 0.37 crores in 1993, 94 to Rs. 2.54 crores in 1994, 95 (up to November 1994).

Public and private sector business organisations in both the countries are being encouraged to forge closer bilateral economic and commercial links. The first meeting of the India.Mongolia Joint Committee on Economic, Trade, Technological and Cultural Cooperation is likely to take place in New Delhi later this year.

Statement

Treaty of friendly relations and Cooperation between the republic of India and Mongolia

The Republic of India and Mongolia (hereinafter referred to as the Contracting Parties);

DESIROUS to further strengthen the friendly relations and cooperation between the peoples of both countries,

REAFFIRMING their adherence to the purpose and principles of the United Nations Charter,

COMMITTED to provide and develop multi-faceted framework of cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual benefit;

HAVE agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

The Contracting Parties shall develop their relations on the basis of universally recognised principles such as mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty, non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit.

ARTICLE 2

The Contracting Parties shall make efforts to develop equal and mutually beneficial cooperation in political, economic, trade, scientific spheres and in the field of science and technology, health, agriculture, ecology, culture, education, transport, sports, communications, humanitarian affairs, tourism and exchange of information. The Contracting Parties, where necessary, shall conclude separate Agreements on cooperation in these spheres by mutual consent.

ARTICLE 3

The Contracting Parties shall promote development of links between the Parliaments, Governments and public organisations and shall exchange views on bilateral matters and international issues of mutual interest at various levels.

ARTICLE 4

The Contracting Parties shall cooperate bilaterally and multilaterally in the combat against international crimes, terrorism in all its forms, crimes against civil aviation security sea navigation crimes, illicit drug trafficking and illegal trade in cultu-

ral and historical objects. For this purpose separate Agreements, where necessary, would be signed.

ARTICLE 5

The Contracting Parties, as members of the Non-Aligned Movement, shall promote North-South dialogue, South-South cooperation and make efforts towards decreasing the economic gap between the developed and developing countries.

ARTICLE 6

The contracting Parties shall closely cooperate within the framework of the United Nations, Non-Aligned Movement and other international organisations with a view to further the cause of peacae and international security and to promote and strengthen atmosphere of cooperation globally and in Asia.

ARTICLE 7

Each Contracting Party shall refrain from participating or supporting any action directed against the legitimate interests of the other Contracting Party.

ARTICLE 8

This Treaty will not prejudice the rights and obligations of the Contracting Parties under any existing bilateral and multilateral Treaties to which they are Parties and is not directed at nor at the expense of their relations with any third country.

ARTICLE 9

Regular contract would be maintained between the Governments of both sides at different levels on issues of mutual concern with the aim of realising the objectives of this Treaty.

ARTICLE 10

This treaty is subject to ratification and shall enter into force on the date of exchange of Instruments of Ratification.

ARTICLE 11

This Treaty shall be valid for ten years and shall be automatically renewed for a further period of five years unless either of the Contracting Party gives to the other a written notice six months in advance of its intention to terminate the Treaty from the date of its expiry.

ARTICLE 12

The Treaty may be amended or modified by mutual consent. Any dispute regarding the interpretation of the Treaty shall be settled by mutual consultating and negotiations by the Contracting Parties.

Done at New Delhi on this 22nd day of February, 1994 in two originals each in Hindi. Mongolian and English languages, all the texts being equally authentic. In case of doubt the English text shall prevail.

sd/-

(P. V. NARASIMHA RAO)
Prime Minister of the Republic of India

sd/-

(PUNTSALMAAGIIN OCHIRBAT)
President of Mongolia

Disappearance of foreigners after expiry of visa period

*417. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that foreign agencies first infiltrate their operatives in a target country as tourists, students, traders, etc. and then make them disappear after expiry of their visa;

(b) if so, the details of such cases detected in the country during the last three years;

(c) whether Government have taken any measures to unearth such cases; if so, the results achieved; and